

SIXTY-FIRST REPORT *of the*  
MINISTRY-AT-LARGE  
*in* LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS

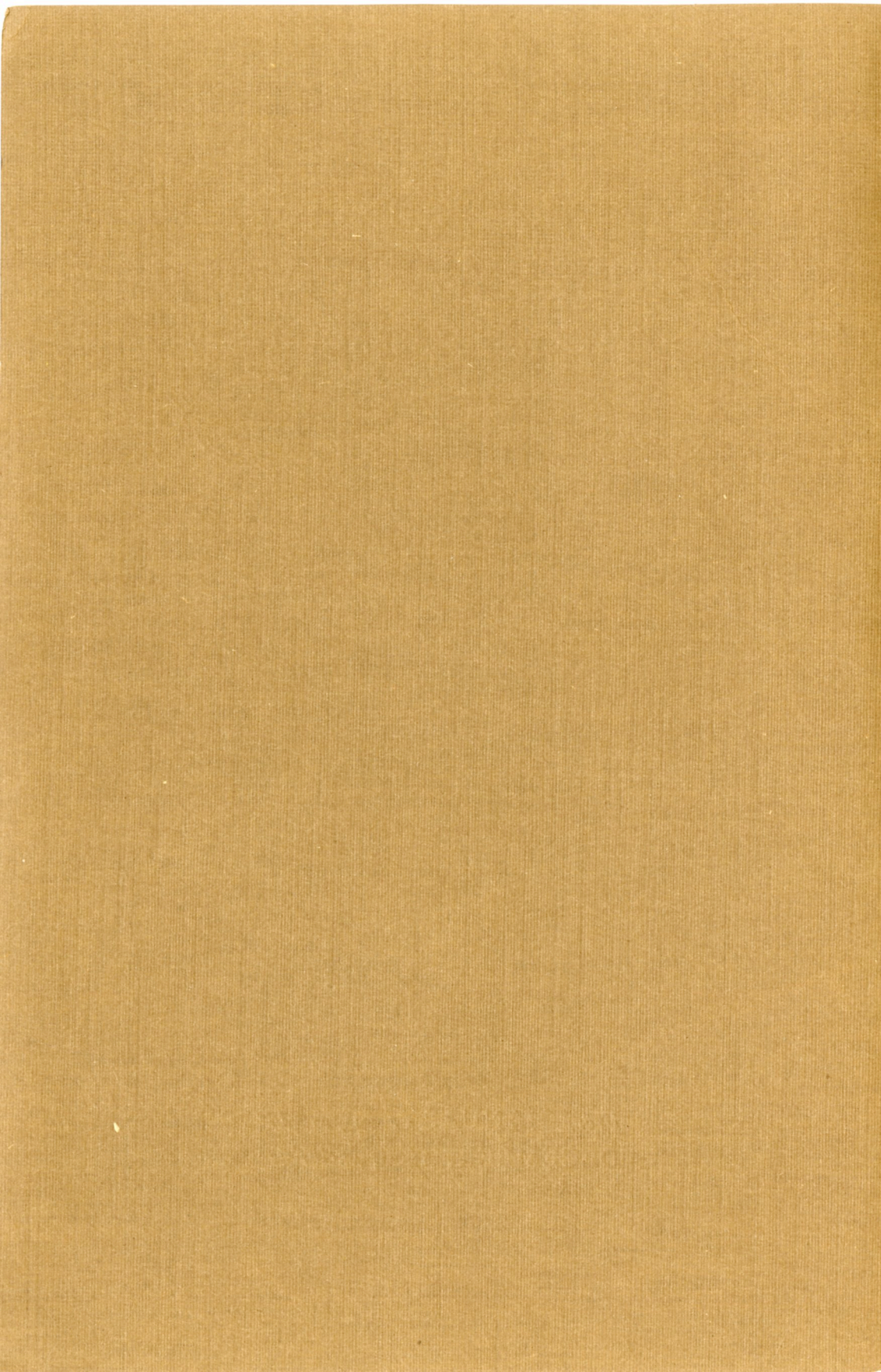
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*From* JANUARY, 1906 *to*  
DECEMBER, 1906, *inclusive*







SIXTY - FIRST REPORT

OF THE

MINISTRY - AT - LARGE

IN LOWELL, MASS.

FROM

January, 1906, to December, 1906,

INCLUSIVE

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OFFICES:

150 MIDDLESEX STREET

Between Elliott and South Streets

OPEN ALL DAY



## BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

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GEORGE F. RICHARDSON

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GEORGE C. WRIGHT, *Minister-at Large*



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1906

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The Ministry-at-Large in Lowell is chartered for charity, benevolence, education and religion to the small wage earners of Lowell. This sixty-first annual report gives statistics and specific illustrations of the relief it has given the past year to families of small wage earners. There are many such among the operative and other minor occupations. They turn to the Ministry-at-Large for assistance when misfortunes befall them. We are their friend and ally, have frank and sympathetic relations with them, are reticent of their confidences and affairs, give them careful and courteous consideration, and guard their children from the future humiliation of a questionable and advertised parental record. We upbuild families to self-reliance, self-restraint, and moral and social betterment. We do anything and everything that may be necessary for them without regard to nationality, color or religion. Our purpose is preventive. We direct paupers and vagrants to the municipal authorities, giving ourself to the keeping of self-respecting small wage workers from falling into pauperism and vagrancy. Relief was given during the year to the following persons—according to nationalities:

Americans .....	894
English .....	353
Scotch .....	615
Irish .....	530
British Canadians .....	282
French .....	282
Portugese .....	34
Swedes .....	9
Danes .....	4
Greeks .....	60
Germans .....	31
Syrians .....	9
Russians .....	8



This relief was issued by the Minister-at-Large in the following forms:

Grocery orders .....	432
Fuel orders .....	274
Shoe orders .....	348
Meat orders .....	154
Milk orders .....	56
Clothing orders .....	139
Medicine orders .....	64
Rent orders .....	14
Board orders .....	3
Meal orders .....	608
Lodging orders .....	34
Money orders .....	13
R. R. fares .....	14
Legal assistance .....	1
Doctor's attendance .....	68
Hospital treatment .....	44
Inquiry letters .....	141
Telegrams .....	2
Electric car rides .....	550
Clothing (2d), pieces .....	112
Shoes (2d), pairs .....	17
Furniture, pieces .....	9

The Minister-at-Large has given to applicants during the year, 1,860 consultations:

For supplies .....	949
For advice .....	673
For work .....	127
Investigations for other institutions, churches and schools. ....	163
Applicants referred to overseers of poor .....	75

In addition to these consultations, he has made 1,748 house calls.

Several specific illustrations from our ordinary day's work will give you a glimpse of its range and variety:



Mr. A., operative, loss of eyesight in mill. Care of him in the hospital and afterward in his home. Care of his wife also in hospital. Work for their daughter.

Mrs. B., operative, deserted by husband before birth of child. Consumptive. Care before and during maternity. Subsequent collapse in mill. Hospital care, home provided for her deaf mother and her delicate child. Outdoor work for her after leaving hospital.

Mrs. C., deserted wife with seven children. Her brother, earning \$7 per week, assumes care of the family. Aid given by us to help support the family. Clothes and shoes for the children to attend school.

Miss D., operative, aged 18, without family. Betrayed and deserted. Provision made for her, and subsequently for her child, in a Boston home.

Mrs. E., husband and 3 children. Husband incapacitated from working by sunstroke. One child a paralytic. The mother's earnings very small and uncertain. The paralytic child provided for in a Boston hospital, mechanical application provided, and the mother thereby enabled to work steadily.

Mr. F., operative, widower, 3 children 8, 5, 3 years old. Sick and unable to work. Provide for the family till the father is well enough to go to work and get started again.

Mr. G., odd job man, wife and 5 children. Oldest child epileptic. Wife demented. Insanity experts provided, wife placed under medical treatment, husband and children visited.

Mr. H., operative, wife and daughter. Accident in mill. Dissatisfied with insurance adjustment. Occasional aid and frequent advice during long convalescence.

Mrs. I., operative, widow and 2 young children and her mother. Her husband killed while at work. She is not strong enough to work steadily. Oversight and aid given the family.

Mr. J., painter, wife and 3 children. The man an invalid. One child blind. The family aided. The man dies and we arrange his burial. The blind child placed in an institution, and the mother thus enabled to go to work.



The Sunday Services and School have no enrolled membership. Those who attend these services, and here form church going habits, are at present as follows:

Church adherents .....	346
School adherents .....	170
Families represented .....	86

New families and children come to us every week. We take all that come and convert them into church goers. When their worldly fortunes improve, through steady habits, industry and forethought here taught them, and the gradual working of moral and religious influences here surrounding them, they move into other churches as valued members thereof. The churches appreciate what we are doing for them. When they raised \$3000 for relief, several years ago, during the hard winter that the mills ran on short time and many of the operatives were out of work, they put their money into our hands to distribute for them.

We have not advertised our work because it exposes contributors to annoying appeals, attracts unworthy people from neighboring towns to solicit it, and increases the mendicancy of the city, besides exposing our beneficiaries to humiliation and reproach.

The trained charity workers from other cities, who come to inspect our work, ask to be allowed to sit through a morning's work in our office and observe our methods. This is the way to learn what we are doing here daily. It is the way recommended to any person who is a director in a charitable institution or interested in charitable work.

GEORGE C. WRIGHT,

*Minister-at-Large*

*Lowell, December 31, 1906.*



## FORM OF BEQUEST

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I give, devise and bequeath unto the MINISTRY-AT-LARGE  
in Lowell, Massachusetts, the sum of ..... Dollars.











